

## **REMARKS**

Claims 1-15 were pending and under consideration in the application.

In the Office Action of May 18, 2004, claims 1-15 were rejected as anticipated by *Takahashi et al.*, (USP 6,049,787). The rejection is traversed.

Although the rejection is traversed, claims independent claims 1, 3, 5, 10 and 13 have been amended to make clearer the nature of the claimed invention.

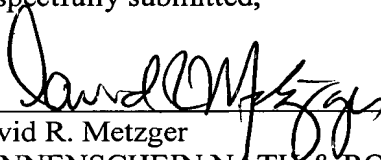
Regarding the rejections of the claims, all independent claims 1, 3, 5, 10, and 13 now recite that the transmission paths are determined/established based on information stored in the information controller that characterizes the terminal equipment connected to the network. The registration information characterizing the terminal equipment includes information about the functional characteristics of the terminal equipment. The functional characteristics of the terminal equipment determine the information handling capabilities of the terminal equipment.

Applicants' claimed subject matter focuses on use of this information about the functional characteristics of the terminal equipment (e.g., is the information recipient a television or a video cassette recorder, etc?) in order to establish the proper transmission of the information. The information controller maintains a storage of the necessary information as "registered" information, as set forth in the claims.

This is in contrast to *Takahashi et al.*, whose system relies on information about users. There is no information controller in *Takahashi et al.* in which terminal equipment functional capabilities-characterizing information is stored, much less use of that information to set up appropriate transmission of other information, such as a stream of information (e.g., a video or audio stream).

In view of the foregoing, it is submitted that *Takahashi et al* does not fairly teach or suggest the claimed subject matter and that the claims are patentable over *Takahashi et al*. Accordingly, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. Notice to that effect is requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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